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LETTER DATED 1 SEPTEMBER 1992 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In paragraph 37 of my report dated 24 August 1992 on the situation in Somalia (S/24480), I indicated that it would be necessary for the Security Council to authorize the increases in UNOSOM strength that I had recommended in the body of the report. These would relate to the establishment of four zone headquarters and to the deployment of four additional security units, each with a strength of up to 750 all ranks. On 28 August, I circulated an addendum to my report (S/24480/Add.1) indicating that "An operation of this size and complexity would require an elaborate logistic, communications and medical support. In the precarious situation on Somalia, such support would be best provided by three specialized units, estimated at up to 719 all ranks at the early stage of deployment." This addendum also contained the cost estimates for the enlargement of UNOSOM, including the logistic components mentioned above.

It would appear that in its resolution 775 (1992) of 28 August 1992, the Security Council only referred to paragraph 37 of the report of 24 August but not to the addendum. The members of the Council will appreciate that these logistic support arrangements mentioned in that addendum are indispensable for the proper functioning of UNOSOM.

The purpose of this letter is to bring this matter to the attention of the Security Council and to request the Council, through you, to extend the applicability of the authorization contained in paragraph 3 of resolution 775 (1992) to cover also the logistic support unit.

Consequently, the total strength of UNOSOM should be 4,219 all ranks (3,500 security personnel, including the unit of 500 already authorized for Mogadishu, and 719 all ranks for the logistic units).

I should be grateful if the Council would take urgent action along the lines indicated above.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

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